-By the-Alamogordo Printing

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TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

ADVERTISING RATES. One inch single column, per month One inch double
Profession cards and advertising cards...
Lecal notices ten cents per line each issue

Tife last leaf in the book of the nine teenth century has been turned.

Le Copies of this paper many be found on file at Washington in the office of our special cor-respondent, E. G. Siggers, 913 F street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

GOVERNOR TAYLOR of Kentucky found Goebel's scalp in his Christmas stocking.

A SURPLUS may have its Inconvenlences but it is a long ways better than a deficit.

Now that the Christmas season is over, the Sunday school boy is preparing to do the back-sliding act.

ada will now proceed to collect his space

EVERYTHING in this country is expanding, including trade, manfacturing and possessions. Even the anti-expansionists have the big head.

THE natural environments which surround Alamogordo are such that are bound to entitle it the sobriquet of "Metropoils of the Southwest."

In a time of such general prosperity it would seem that the pessimism of the pro silver contingent is but the result of an overindulgence in dollar-a-plate dinners.

THE Democrats continue to try to force the president to interfere in the Boer war. The United States has no right to say a word until asked to do by both parties.

Tue new year opens with the most promising prospects for the "Magic City." It is predicted that building enterprises for the year to come will be far in excess of those of the year which sioner Kasson and his able secretary, has just closed.

THE solitude of the Democrats in regard to Senator Hanna's health and their fears lest he may be unable to manage the next campaign are really getting to be amusing.

THE territory at large is awaiting the phant Butte Dam case to find out whether or not the Rio Grande is navigable. The court should not keep the people in doubt so long.

Christmas dinner hugely. It had a gress of recent years.

THE New York Sun has christened Senator Jones of Arkansas, by the name of Hopeful Jim Jones. The Sun's nicknames have a way of sticking when they are to the point, as this one is.

IT WAS left for a New Yorker to evolve the idea that whiskers denote brains, and it will not be long before the men of that town will resemble Kansas farmers before prosperity struck that state.

SIBLEY has come over to the gold bug ranks, Governor Hogg does not care to be Bryan's running mate. McLean is a millionaire and therefore to be suspected. Whence, oh whence, is the Democrat for second place to come.

SERATOR PETTIGREW Is at work pre venting the destruction and ruin of the Union and incidentally preparing for his own re-election. A Tagalog jamboree will be held at Sloux Falls next week, which will undertake both these tasks.

THE extension of the coal export of able. Last year we exported and sold to foreign countries and steamships some to Italy left Philadelphia recently.

AN EXCHANGE says that the custom of making New Year calls has not been introduced in the Philippines, but thinks if Againaldo would be "at home" on that day the entire American army would be glad to do the proper thing.

THERE is more trouble in the Nebraska fusion ranks. The Lincoln Women's Bimetallic League, which did valiant the average human life. service for Bryan in 1806, is split asunder and has been captured by the Republicans. Colone Bryan has fled the state.

THE Goobel commission goes into great detail in explaining why it inaugurates a contest before the legislature, but it does not give the real reason, which is that the legislature is democratic and as auch is expected to be amenable to

THE British have no legal right to

natural aspitariom.

THE annual report of the commissioner of navigation shows clearly that a merchant marine is needed to carry our exports abroad. It was bad enough to depend on foreign vessels for imports, but we should certainly be able to move our own goods.

WE ALL remember how the foreign press divided up and parcelled out the 1800 came in. United States after the battle of Bull ... \$1.50 sort with the British empire nowadays, ing a little trouble just then with France but the result is likely to be similar to that in America.

DESPITE the large number of pensions applied for in consequence of the Spanish war, there is little doubt that the appropriation for pensions this year will be smaller than it was last. The are dying off rapidly.

WHILE It is true that speculators must reap some advantage from' the action of Secretary Gage in releasing gold, it is also true that dozens of financial institutions involving thousands of widows and children have been saved from distress by his prompt act.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY has done much to improve the standard of our consular service, but even more can be THE newspaper fakir who worked off done if a competent secretary of comthat story of a Fenian invasion of Can. merce can be appointed who will select the consuls on account of their business qualifications and not for political

> WHEN men and women become permanently established in a town they try to save money and put by a little each month. And while in that frame of mind they are constantly on the lookout for bargains. The merchant who gives them bargains, secures their patronage. Advertise bargains.

THERE has been too much foolish talk about a Pacific cable steal. Any man of average intelligence should be able to cipher out for himself which is the more costly-\$400,000 a year subsidy for twenty years, or the interest on \$10,000,-000 invested in a government cable which must be renewed in twenty years.

and harder to ratify. They involve the Acropolis. But the painted foliage sacrifices by some for the sake of others on these crags-the Greeks must have and each fellow wants the other to be dreamed of such a vegetable phenomenon magnanimous. Reciprocity Commis- in the midst of their grayish olive-Mr. Coleman, deserve great credit for by embroidering their marble temples the ability they have shown in framing with gay colors. Did you see that pike those sent to the senate.

Now that the movement for statehood for New Mexico has been started by sideration at the hands of congress every cies to you?" we observed in reply to decision of Judge Parker in the Elemovement and help to bring it to a sucinto the Union but there seems to be broke just now. but few who are interested enough to Congress has no doubt enjoyed its take hold of the matter and try to push the middle of the reservoir." it through. The time to strike is while right to do so. It accomplished more the iron is hot and if the benefits of tried in what situation his most carnest work before the holidays than any con- statehood are ever to be secured for meditations may be concentrated. I am New Mexico it must be through the ef- boring you though." forts of her own citizens. It surely will not come unsolicited.

THAT advertising pays, even in a town with the population of Alamogordo, has in yonder corner. been proven conclusively by the efforts of the Cash Clothing Co. The special run made by that firm on a few goods that ladder resulted from my meditaresulted in selling almost the entire tions in the reservoir, at which you than two weeks. And, from the stand- about them?" point of the newspaper, the test was not good one, for the reason that the list did not embrace a large or varied amount of goods and it contained but two articles of personal value to ladies. Nevertheless, hose, blankets, underwear, over three-fourths of the purchasers were women who possessed ideas of economy and desired to take advantage of the bargains offered. Unlike most other things than politics and records walls, determined to pass the night on of criminal doings and they readily the United States is growing remark- pounce on advertising matter that shows them where they can save money and lay by a mite for the proverbial .rainy ten millions tons. Our first shipment tinue its line of advertising and offer some special prices which are real bargains, each week.

When the Century Ends. Though we all may hope to live some very youngest of us may find in it the period of their chief activity, yet they are a small minority for whom the nineteenth has not been the century of their lives-about a third of a century is still

The pope of Rome has decided that the year 1900 does not belong to the twentieth century.

The emperor of Germany has decided that the twentieth century begins tomorrow. The difficulty seems to lie in what is meant by the year 1 of the I planted a foot and began my de-Christian era. If it means the year during which the sou of Mary attained day by day the age of twelve months, as we reckon the age of a child, then the 31st of December, 1899, rounded out full 1900 years since fix birth and the twenstral vessels unless it tieth century began January 1st, 1900. Boers or in pre- 18, on the other hand, the year I means ded Boor the year that began when Jesus was I year old, then the nineteenth century has yet twelve months to run. And if centuries are counted simply as blocks of time comprising each 100 years the estion is whether a year is pumbered

Ir wound be a hard matter to find'a whon it begtes or when it ends. Years agre congenial winter climate than are numbered when they end and not that of this region. The balmy, sun- when they begin, except on promissory shinny days the year round make it a notes and in paying rent in advance.— Rev. David Utter.

The Stride in One Century.

"The nineteenth century has proved to be the greatest century of human history, so far. We gladly expect the twentleth to be greater. One hundred years ago John Adams was president of the United States—the second president of our country. George Washington died two weeks before the new year did not even rest me to lean against it.

"Nationally our differences with Eng-Rue. It is doing something of the same land had been settled, but we were havwhich was settled, that year and has long been forgotten. There were sixteen states in the Union thening been added to the original thirteen. The population of our country then was less than that of our two greatest cities now, being less than 4,000,000. civil war veterans are growing old and France and Spain owned all the country west of the Mississippi river.

"Russia at the beginning of this cen tnry was still asleep, a nation with whom no one reckoned, and slept on vainly trying the sides again and again until discovered by Napoleon in 1812, with his paws fixes his eyes upon the In the twentieth century Russia will be counted. Some people think and some fear, that she may rule the world before the next century ends .- Rocky Mountain News.

IN THE RESERVOIR.

Some 30 years ago you might have seen some of the best society of New York on the top of the distributing reservoir any fine October morning. There and half a dozen senatorial looking mothers with young children pacing the parapet, as we ourselves, one day in the past generation, basked there in the sunshine-now watching the pickerel that glided along the lucid edges of the black pool within, and now looking off upon the scene of rich and wondrops variety that spreads along the two rivers on each side.

They may talk of Alpheus and Arethusa." murmured an idling sophomore who had found his way thither during recitation hours, "but the Croton, in passing over an arm of the sea at Spuyten Duyvil and bursting to sight again in this truncated pyramid, beats it all hollow. By George, too, the bay yonder looks as blue as ever the RECIPROCITY treaties are hard to frame Ægean sea to Byron's eye gazing from groves or they never would have sup-

break, sir?" "I did not." "Zounds! His silver fin finshed upon the black Acheron like a restless soul Governor Otero and is receiving con-

cessful termination. Of course every good deal of anxious thinking within a one wants to see New Mexico admitted circle of a few yards where that fish

> "A singular place for meditation-"You look incredulous, sir, but it's a

"Not at all. But you seem so familiar

with the spot that I wish you could tell me why that ladder leading down to the water is lashed against the stonework "That ladder?" said the young man, brightening at the question, "Why, the

position, perhaps the very existence, of stock of the articles advertised in less smiled just now. Shall I tell you all "Pray do." "Well, you have seen the notice for-

bidding any one to fish in the reservoir. Now, when I read that warning, the spirit of the th' g struck me at once as inferring nothing more than that one should not sully the temperance potacomforts and shoes were eagerly sought | tions of our citizens by steeping bait in for and purchased while the sale con it of any kind; but you probably know slip noose of delicate wire. I was determined to have a touch at the fellows with this kind of tackle.

"I chose a moonlight night, and as hour before the edifice was closed to men, women read the newspapers for visitors I secreted myself within the the top. All went as I could wish it. The night proved cloudy, but it was only a variable drift of broken clouds which obscured the moon. I had a walking cane rod with me, which would reach to the margin of the water and several feet beyond if necessary.

"To this was attached the wire about 15 inches in length.

"I prowled along the parapet for a rable time, but not a single fish could I see. The clouds made a flickeryears in the twentieth century and the ing light and shade that wholly foiled my steadfast gaze. I was convinced that should they come up thicker my whole night's adventure would be thrown away. 'Why shall I not descend the sloping wall and get nearer on a level with the fish, for thus alone can I hope to see one?' The question had hardly shaped itself in my mind before I had

one leg over the iron railing. "If you look around, you will ree now that there are some half dozen weeds growing here and there amid the fissures of the solid masonry. In one of the fissures from whence these spring The reservoir was fuller than it is now, and a few strides would have carried me so the margin of the water. Holding on to the cleft above, I felt around with one foot for a place to plant it below

"In that moment the flap of a pound pike made me look round, and the roots of the weed upon which I partly deded gave way as I was in the act of arning, Sir, one's senses are sharpened in deadly peril. As I live now I dis-tingly heard the bells of Trinity chim-ing midnight as I rose to the surface int, immersed in the stone seldron, where I must swim for my life

heaven only could tell now long.

"I am a capital swimmer, and this naturally gave me a degree of self posnion. Falling as I had, I, of course, had pitched out some distance from the sloping parapol. A few strokes brought me to the edge. I really was not yet certain but that I could clamber up the face of the wall anywhere. I hoped that I could. I felt certain that at least there was some spot where I might get hold with my hands, even if I did not altimately ascend it.

"I tried the nearest spot. The inclination of the wall was so vertical that it I felt with my hands and with my feet. Surely, I thought, there must be some tissure like those in which that ill omened weed had found a place for its

"There was none. My fingers became sore in busying themselves with the harsh and inhospitable stones. My feet Vermont, Kentucky and Tennessee hav- slipped from the smooth and slimy masonry beneath the water, and several times my face came in rude contact with the wall, when my footbold gave way on the instant that I seemed to have found some diminutive rocky cleat apon which I could stay myself.

"Sir, did you ever see a rat drowned m a half filled hogshead, how he swims round and round and round, and after upper rim as if he would look himself out of his watery prison?

"I thought of the miserable vermin. thought of him as I had often watched thus his dying agonies, when a cruel prehip of 8 or 10. Boys are horribly cruel, sir; boys, women and savages. All childlike things are cruel-cruel from a want of thought and from perverse ingenuity, although by instinct each of these is so tender. You may not have observed it, but a savage is as tender to its own young as a boy is to a favorite puppy-the same boy that will were two or three carriages in waiting, torture a kitten out of existence. I thought then, I say, of a rat drowning in a half filled cask of water and lifting his gaze out of the vessel as he grew more and more desperate, and I flung myself on my back, and floating thus fixed my eyes upon the face of the moon.

"The moon is well enough in her way, however you may look at her, but her appearance is, to say the least of it, peculiar to a man floating on his back in the center of a stone tank, with a dead wall of some 15 or 20 feet rising squarely on every side of him!"

The young man smiled bitterly as be said this and shuddered once or twice before he went on musingly:

"The last time I had noted the planet with any emotion she was on the wane. Mary was with me. I had brought her out here one morning to look at the view from the top of the reservoir. She said little of the scene, but as we talked of our old childish loves I saw that its fresh features were ir corporating themselves with tender memories of the past, and I was content.

"There was a rich golden haze upou the landscape, and as my own spirits rose amid the voluptuous atmosphere she pointed to the waning planet, discernible like a faint gash in the welkin, and wondered how long it would be before the leaves would fall. Strange girl! Did she mean to rebuke my joyous mood, as if we had no right to be happy while nature withering in her pomp blaze of noontide were there to remind as of 'the gone forever?'

"They will all renew themselves, dear Mary,' said I encouragingly, 'and there is one that will ever keep tryst alike with thee and nature through all seasons if thou wilt be true to one of us, and remain as now a child of na-

"A tear sprang to her eye, and then searching her pocket for her cardense she remembered an engagement to be present at Miss Lawson's opening of fall bonnets at 2 o'clock.

"And yet, dear, wild, wayward Mary-I thought of her now. You have probably outlived this sort of thing, sir, but I, looking at the moon, as I floated there upturned to her yellow light, thought of the loved being whose tears I knew would flow when she heard of my singular fate, at once so grotesque, yet melancholy to awfulness. "And how often we have talked, too,

of that Carian shepherd who spent his damp nights upon the hills, gazing as I do on the lustrous planet Who will revel with her amid those old superstitions? Who from our own unlegended woods will evoke their yet undetected, baunting spirits? Who peer with her in prying scrutiny into nature's laws and challenge the whispers of poetry from the voiceless throat of matter? Who laugh merrily over the stupid guesswork of pedants that never mingled with the infinitude of nature, through love exhausting and all embracing, as we have? Poor girl, she will be companionless!

"Alss, companionless forever, save in the exciting stages of some brisk firtation. She will live hereafter by feeding other hearts with love's lore she has learned from me, and then, Pygmaliontike, grow fond of the images she has berself endowed with semblance of divinity, until they seem to breathe back the mystery the soul can truly catch from only one. How anxious she will be lest the coroner shall have discovered any of her notes in my pocket.

"I felt chilly as this last reflection crossed my mind, partly at thought of the coroner, partly at the idea of Mary being unwillingly compelled to wear mourning for me, in case of such a discleaure of our engagement. It is a prevoking thing for a girl of 19 to have to go into menraling for a deceased loves at the beginning of her second winter in the metropolis.

"The water, though, with my motionless position, must have had a thing to do with my chilliness. I see sir, you think that I tell my story with great levity, but indeed, indeed I should grow delirious did I venture to hold tendily to the awfulness of my feelings the greater part of that night. I think indeed, I must have been most of the time hysterical with horror, for the vibrating emotions I have recapitulated did pass through my brain even as I have detailed them.

"But as I now became calm in thought I summoned up again some ree ciution of notion. "I will begin at that corner, said I,

and awim around the whole inclosure. I will swim slowly and again feel the sides of the tank with my feet. If die I must, let me perish at least from well directed though exhausting effort, nos -Pillsbury's best door

eink from mere bootiess weariness is sustaining myself till the morning shall

bring relief. "The sides of the place seemed to grow higher as I now kept my watery source beneath them. It was not also gether a dead pull. I had some variety of em-tion in making my circuit. When I swam fit the shadow, it looked to me more obserful beyond in the moculight. When I swam in the moonlight, I had the hope of making some discovers when I should again reach the shadow. I turned several times on my back to rest just where those wavy lines would meet. The stars looked viciously bright to me from the bottom of that wall there was such a company of them they were so glad in their instrous rev elry, and they had such space to move in. I was alone, and to despair in a strange element, prisoned, and a soll-tary gazer upon their mocking chorus

which I could held communion. "I turned upon my breast and struck out almost frantically once more. The stars were forgotten. The moo: . the very world of which I as yet formed a part, my poor Mary herself, was forgot-ten. I thought only of the strong man there perishing; of me in my lusty manhood, in the sharp vigor of my dawning prime, with faculties illimitable, with senses all alert, battling there with physical obstacles which men like myself had brought together for my undoing. The Eternal could never have willed this thing. I could not and I would not perish thus. And I grew strong in insolence of self trust, and I laughed aloud as I dashed the sluggish water from side to side.

"Then came an emotion of pity for myself-of wild, wild regret; of sorrow, ob, infinite, for a fate so desolate. a doom so dreary, so heart sickening. You may laugh at the contradiction if you will, sir, but I felt that I could sacrifice my own life on the instant to redeem another fellow creature from such a place of horror, from an end so piteous. My coul and my vital spirit seemed in that desperate moment to be separating, while one in parting grieved over the deplorable fate of the other.

"And then I prayed. I prayed, why or wherefore I know not. It was not from fear. It could not have been in hope. The days of miracles are passed, and there was no natural law by whose providential interposition I could be saved. I did not pray. It prayed of itself, my soul within me.

"Was the calmness that I now felt torpidity, the torpidity that precedes dissolution, to the strong swimmer who, sinking from exhaustion, must at last add a bubble to the wave as he suffocates beneath the element which now denied his mastery? If it were so, how fortunate was it that my floating rod at that moment attracted my attention as it dashed through the water by me! I saw on the instant that a fish had entangled himself in the wire noose. The rod quivered, plunged, came again to the surface and rippled the water as it Supplie shot in arrowy flight from side to side of the than. At the t. driven toward the southeast corner of the reservoir, the small end seemed to have got foul somewhere. The brazen butt which every time the fish sounded was thrown to the moon, now sank by its own weight showing that the other end must fast. But the cornered fish, evidently anchored somewhere by that short win floundered several times to the surface before I thought of striking out to the

*The water is low now, and tolerably plear. You may see the very ledge there, air, in yonder corner, on which the small end of my rod rested when I secured that pike with my bands. I did not take him from the slip noess, however, but standing upon the ledge handled the rod in a workmanlike manner, as I flung that pound pickerel over the from railing upon the top of the parapet. The rod, as I have told you, barely reached from the railing to the water. It was a Favy, strong bass rod, and when I discovered that the fish at the and of the wire made a strong enough knot to prevent me from drawing my tackle away from the railing around which it twined itself as I threw, why as you can at once see, I had but little

difficulty in making my way up the face of the wall with spch assistance.

"The ladder which attracted your notice is, as you see, lashed to the iron railing in the identical apot where is thus made my escape, and for fear similar accidents they have placed as other one in the corresponding corn of the other compartment of the ta ever since my remarkable night's venture in the reservoir."-- Cha Fenno Hoffman.

"In the campaign of 1856," Charles H. Whitaker of Clinton 'I beard Senator Benton speak i I believe was then known as L park in St. Louis, a small squathe old Union depot and near the oity limits. It was a night meeting, and as the carriage containing Colonel Benton rapidly approached the speakers stand his name flamed forth from its full length in capital letters of scintilating fire and the cheers were deafenlag. In this speech Senator Benton in-dulged in prophetic uttarances which afforded St. Louis a great scusation. He

"There are those within hearing of my voice who will live to see the day when the people of this vast country will by means of electricity instantly communicate with their friends in all parts of the world. There are those lissuing to me tonight who will live to ess the time when the iron horse will plow its way from the rock ribbed shores of the Atlantic to the golden ands of the Pacific.' "—Exchange.

-R. H. Pierce & Company carry the largest stock of general merchandise in Otero county and car supply ranchmen, cattlemen, railroad men and miners with provi ions and dry goods on a mon notice.

-A fine line of platinas at photograph gallery, A

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